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TEXAS
Labor Market Review

TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION | JANUARY 1989 | AUSTIN, TX 78778

JOBLESS RATE DROPS TO FOUR-YEAR LOW

The actual Texas unemployment rate declined in December to its lowest point in four years, decreasing from 6.6% in November to 6.2% in mid-December. The last time the actual rate was below 6.2% was in December 1984, when it was 5.6%. The total number of jobless Texans dropped by just over 33,000 over the month, to a level of 518,900. While the decline from November to December was encouraging, unemployment had been gradually declining throughout most of 1988. The current unemployment rate compared favorably to the December 1987 rate of 6.8%. Total employment decreased moderately over the month, but was still almost 100,000 above its year-ago level, at 7,805,700 in December. There were an estimated 188,800 agricultural workers in the State in December, according to the Current Population Survey.

The seasonally adjusted rate for the State rose slightly over the month, from 6.9% in November to 7.1% in December. The current rate in this series was also well below the year-ago rate of 7.7%. The U. S. rates in both series inched downward between November and December. The seasonally adjusted rate for the Nation inched down from 5.4% to 5.3%, while the actual rate slid from 5.2% to 5.0% in December. These rates were among the lowest registered for the U. S. in many years.

MSA RATES ALSO DECLINE

The December unemployment rates for the majority of the 28 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA's) in the State were below those recorded for November 1988, and most were also below year-ago levels. The five largest MSA's — Austin, Dallas, Fort Worth-Arlington, Houston and San Antonio — all had lower rates over the month. These areas' current rates were not only below their December 1987 rates, but were substantially lower than their December 1986 rates (see **Chart 1** on Page 3).

The most dramatic improvement among these largest MSA's has been in the Houston area, which had a December 1986 rate of 9.9%. The December 1987 rate had declined to 6.7%, and the current rate was down to 5.4% — the lowest rate reported for Houston since April 1982, when the rate was 5.0%.

Although the Houston PMSA had lost a substantial number of jobs during the past few years due to its dependence on the oil and gas industry, this area's Nonagricultural Wage and Salary Employment has experienced one of the strongest growth rates in the State in 1988. Preliminary estimates of nonfarm salaried jobs for the Houston PMSA in December 1988 show an increase of over 46,000 from the December 1987 total. This represents a 3% growth rate (about twice

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
(In Thousands)

	Dec. '88	Nov.'88	Dec.'87
UNITED STATES (ACTUAL)			
Labor Force	122,120.0	122,639.0	120,205.0
Unemployment	6,142.0	6,325.0	6,526.0
Percent Unemployed	5.0%	5.2%	5.4%
Total Employment	115,978.0	116,314.0	113,679.0
UNITED STATES (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)			
Labor Force	122,563.0	122,571.0	120,722.0
Unemployment	6,554.0	6,595.0	6,978.0
Percent Unemployed	5.3%	5.4%	5.8%
Total Employment	116,009.0	115,976.0	113,744.0
STATE OF TEXAS (ACTUAL)			
Labor Force	8,324.6	8,420.0	8,269.2
Unemployment	518.9	552.0	561.4
Percent Unemployed	6.2%	6.6%	6.8%
Total Employment	7,805.7	7,868.0	7,707.8
STATE OF TEXAS (SEASONALLY ADJUSTED)			
Labor Force	8,320.0	8,351.0	8,286.0
Unemployment	594.0	579.0	640.0
Percent Unemployed	7.1%	6.9%	7.7%
Total Employment	7,726.0	7,772.0	7,646.0

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT ✦
TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Industry	DEC.'88*	NOV.'88**	DEC.'87**	DEC.'88*	NOV.'88**	DEC.'87**	DEC.'88*	NOV.'88**	DEC.'87**	DEC.'88*	NOV.'88**	DEC.'87**
	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN			BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR		
TOTAL	50,600	50,600	49,100	77,200	77,300	76,700	350,200	352,000	354,000	130,500	130,600	129,100
Manufacturing	4,800	4,800	4,800	9,000	9,100	9,800	39,800	39,900	39,700	24,900	25,000	24,800
Mining	2,000	2,000	2,000	1,200	1,200	1,300	700	700	800	1,500	1,600	1,500
Construction	2,200	2,200	2,000	3,400	3,700	3,700	14,700	15,000	16,400	8,200	8,600	7,400
Trans., Comm. & Util.	2,500	2,400	2,500	5,800	5,800	5,700	10,500	10,700	10,700	9,600	9,700	9,800
Trade	14,500	14,200	13,700	23,600	23,400	23,300	77,900	77,400	80,400	32,400	32,000	32,200
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	2,600	2,600	2,700	4,200	4,300	4,400	24,200	24,500	24,800	5,300	5,200	5,300
Services & Misc.	13,000	13,200	13,100	16,600	16,300	16,200	83,400	83,600	84,000	28,000	27,900	27,900
Government	9,200	9,200	8,500	13,400	13,500	14,300	99,000	100,200	97,200	20,600	20,600	20,200
	BRAZORIA			BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN			BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION			CORPUS CHRISTI		
TOTAL	60,300	59,400	57,800	68,200	67,500	66,400	49,900	50,400	48,600	126,100	126,400	124,500
Manufacturing	15,800	15,800	15,500	10,300	10,200	10,100	3,300	3,200	3,200	11,200	11,200	11,200
Mining	1,800	1,800	1,900	–	–	–	600	600	700	4,400	4,300	3,900
Construction	7,500	7,200	5,900	2,200	2,100	2,100	2,500	2,400	2,200	6,200	6,200	6,300
Trans., Comm. & Util.	2,200	2,200	2,300	3,200	3,100	3,100	1,700	1,700	1,800	6,800	6,800	6,900
Trade	11,300	11,100	11,200	18,200	17,800	17,600	9,800	9,900	9,700	32,300	32,700	32,300
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	2,000	1,900	2,000	3,500	3,500	3,600	1,800	1,800	1,700	7,100	7,100	6,900
Services & Misc.	8,400	8,300	8,000	14,400	14,500	13,800	8,800	8,800	8,500	29,800	29,700	29,000
Government	11,500	11,300	11,000	16,400	16,300	16,100	22,000	22,200	21,000	28,300	28,400	28,000
	DALLAS ***			EL PASO			FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON			GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY		
TOTAL	1,340.6	1,340.4	1,342.1	191,500	191,300	187,500	518,600	517,300	516,900	69,200	69,200	70,200
Manufacturing	221.2	222.2	222.8	37,900	37,800	37,000	119,300	119,200	117,400	8,500	8,500	8,500
Mining	17.7	17.8	18.4	–	–	–	3,800	3,800	3,800	500	500	600
Construction	48.2	47.4	57.5	8,800	9,000	9,400	18,900	18,800	21,400	3,300	3,200	3,300
Trans., Comm. & Util.	93.0	93.0	90.1	11,000	10,800	10,300	31,800	31,300	30,400	4,400	4,400	5,000
Trade	359.3	356.6	353.4	47,900	47,500	47,500	134,300	133,500	139,100	14,200	14,200	14,100
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	126.1	126.3	131.4	9,000	9,000	9,600	26,500	26,400	27,600	4,000	4,000	4,100
Services & Misc.	324.9	328.1	316.9	36,600	36,800	34,700	115,100	115,300	112,000	14,400	14,400	13,900
Government	152.2	152.0	151.8	40,300	40,400	39,000	69,300	69,200	67,400	19,900	20,000	20,700
	HOUSTON ***			KILLEEN-TEMPLE			LAREDO			LONGVIEW-MARSHALL		
TOTAL	1,447.9	1,439.7	1,401.3	71,300	71,500	70,100	38,400	38,400	36,000	66,000	65,600	65,100
Manufacturing	153.2	152.8	149.0	8,300	8,500	7,900	1,700	1,900	1,700	15,800	15,500	15,700
Mining	64.7	64.9	63.2	100	100	100	1,900	1,900	2,100	3,500	3,500	3,600
Construction	85.1	84.8	81.4	3,800	3,700	3,400	1,100	1,100	1,300	3,400	3,400	3,100
Trans., Comm. & Util.	100.4	100.3	97.9	2,800	2,700	2,700	5,100	5,200	4,800	3,100	3,100	3,100
Trade	372.4	365.4	361.0	16,800	16,500	16,400	11,500	11,100	10,400	17,400	17,000	16,800
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	98.7	98.7	98.3	3,000	3,100	2,900	1,500	1,600	1,600	2,700	2,700	2,700
Services & Misc.	379.4	379.0	361.9	15,600	15,600	15,000	6,100	6,200	5,800	11,800	11,900	11,600
Government	196.0	195.8	188.6	21,300	21,300	21,700	9,500	9,400	8,500	8,500	8,500	8,500
	LUBBOCK			MCALLEN-EDINBURG-MISSION			MIDLAND			ODESSA		
TOTAL	94,800	94,500	92,900	98,400	95,400	91,900	45,200	45,200	44,400	43,100	42,900	43,900
Manufacturing	7,900	7,800	7,200	13,200	12,700	12,700	2,900	2,900	2,900	3,800	3,700	3,700
Mining	400	400	400	900	900	900	9,500	9,600	10,100	5,700	5,800	6,300
Construction	3,400	3,400	3,200	4,000	4,100	3,900	1,200	1,200	1,100	2,000	2,000	2,200
Trans., Comm. & Util.	5,100	5,100	5,100	3,000	3,000	2,800	2,200	2,200	2,100	2,100	2,100	2,200
Trade	28,300	28,000	27,900	29,800	29,400	27,500	10,700	10,600	10,600	13,100	12,800	12,900
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	5,600	5,500	5,200	3,800	3,800	3,800	2,500	2,500	2,500	1,700	1,700	1,700
Services & Misc.	22,500	22,500	21,900	15,300	15,200	14,700	8,600	8,600	8,600	7,200	7,300	7,200
Government	21,800	21,800	22,000	28,400	28,300	25,800	7,400	7,400	6,500	7,500	7,500	7,700
	SAN ANGELO			SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON			TEXARKANA		
TOTAL	38,900	38,800	37,000	518,500	515,400	507,000	37,400	37,300	36,000	45,800	45,200	46,000
Manufacturing	5,500	5,500	5,700	46,900	47,000	46,600	10,900	10,700	11,000	7,500	7,500	7,400
Mining	400	400	500	2,400	2,400	2,600	100	100	100	100	100	100
Construction	1,500	1,500	1,500	24,500	24,600	29,700	1,600	1,600	1,600	1,700	1,700	2,200
Trans., Comm. & Util.	3,000	3,000	3,200	18,000	18,000	18,100	1,900	1,900	2,000	1,900	1,900	1,700
Trade	9,800	9,800	9,900	137,100	135,800	133,800	8,400	8,300	8,400	11,100	10,900	10,900
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,800	1,800	1,800	40,700	40,600	39,700	1,700	1,800	1,700	1,900	1,800	1,900
Services & Misc.	7,900	7,900	7,700	127,000	127,000	120,500	8,600	8,600	8,900	9,400	9,300	9,300
Government	7,000	7,100	6,700	121,900	120,000	116,000	4,200	4,300	4,300	12,200	12,000	12,500
	TYLER			VICTORIA			WACO			WICHITA FALLS		
TOTAL	61,700	61,700	61,500	27,200	27,600	27,500	80,600	80,000	78,200	51,500	51,200	50,300
Manufacturing	10,300	10,500	10,800	2,900	3,000	3,000	15,400	15,300	14,600	8,200	8,200	8,400
Mining	1,800	1,800	1,900	1,100	1,200	1,500	100	100	100	1,900	1,900	1,900
Construction	2,200	2,200	2,300	1,600	1,600	1,700	3,700	3,700	3,300	2,100	2,100	1,700
Trans., Comm. & Util.	2,700	2,700	2,800	1,400	1,500	1,500	3,400	3,400	3,300	2,600	2,600	2,600
Trade	17,100	17,000	16,700	5,200	5,100	5,000	19,700	19,300	19,700	12,700	12,500	12,400
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	3,700	3,800	3,700	1,500	1,500	1,500	4,700	4,700	4,600	2,300	2,300	2,300
Services & Misc.	14,700	14,700	14,300	5,900	6,000	5,700	20,900	20,800	20,000	11,600	11,600	11,500
Government	9,200	9,200	9,000	4,600	4,700	4,600	12,700	12,700	12,600	10,100	10,000	9,500

✦ Estimates prepared by TEC in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.
* Preliminary – subject to revision. ** Revised. *** In Thousands.

that for the State as a whole for the same period). Even more encouraging, the increases were scattered through almost every sector of the area's economy, rather than concentrated in any one industry.

NONFARM JOBS TOTAL UP SEASONALLY

Statewide **Nonagicultural Wage and Salary Employment** rose by 13,000 between November and December, due primarily to seasonal hiring in Trade. Had this sector not increased significantly, the Nonfarm Salaried Jobs total would have declined over the month, as several other sectors recorded job losses in December. Noteable growth occurred in most industries during the past year, generating approximately 113,000 additional jobs between December 1987 and December 1988. The exceptions were Construction and Mining, both of which continued cutbacks during 1988.

Wholesale and Retail Trade employment expanded between November and December, as both sectors added workers to accommodate Christmas shoppers. The Wholesale segment gained 1,100 jobs, but the bulk of the increase was in the Retail sector, where 15,700 positions were created. General Merchandise Stores was responsible for 7,200 of the gain, and Apparel and Accessory Stores increased by 4,000. These two sectors of Retail Trade contributed two-thirds of the total Trade growth. Other Retail Trade, which includes such varied shops as jewelry and drug stores and catalog houses, rose by 5,000 over the month. The only Trade sectors which lost jobs in December were Food Stores and Automotive Dealers and Service Stations.

A much smaller increase occurred in **Government**, which gained 1,900 jobs between November and December. Federal Government was responsible for the largest number of new hires, as jobs were added for the Christmas rush and a hiring freeze was lifted. Local Government rose by only 1,400, and State Government declined as jobs were deleted at the semester's end in schools and colleges.

Employment in **Transportation and Public Utilities** increased by 1,400 on the strength of growth in Transportation, except Railroads. Within this sector, the primary gains were in trucking and warehousing and in water transportation. The Communication sector declined modestly, while Electric, Gas and Sanitary Services remained stable in December.

An estimated 1,300 jobs were added over the month in **Finance, Insurance and Real Estate**. Most of this growth was centered in Banking, where the merging and reorganization among financial institutions enabled one large firm to begin hiring again.

An additional 5,600 jobs were deleted in **Construction** in December. Much of the over-the-month decline was due to seasonal losses, which occurred in all sectors of Construction. Close to 28,000 jobs have been cut between December 1987 and December 1988 in the building trades.

Mining employment in December continued a downward trend which began in July . Although only 900 jobs were lost over the past month, this industry has declined by 5,000 since July and is currently 7,500 below its year-ago level.

The other Nonmanufacturing sector which decreased over the month was **Services**, where scattered declines more than offset moderate gains, leaving the total down by 300. Health Services and Other Services and Miscellaneous provided the largest increases. The largest of the losses was in Educational Services, as some jobs

(Continued on Page 7)

TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT +

	Dec. '88*	Nov. '88**	Dec. '87**	Chg. from Nov. '88	Chg. from Dec. '87
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT	**6,693,700**	**6,680,700**	**6,580,800**	**13,000**	**112,900**
MANUFACTURING	**954,300**	**955,900**	**943,300**	**-1,600**	**11,000**
Durable Goods	**548,400**	**548,800**	**539,100**	**-400**	**9,300**
Lumber & Wood Products	33,300	33,600	33,500	-300	-200
Logging Camps, Sawmills, Planing Mills	6,400	6,400	6,500	0	-100
Furniture & Fixtures	16,700	16,900	17,300	-200	-600
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	42,700	43,000	43,700	-300	-1,000
Concrete, Gypsum & Plaster Prod.	17,700	17,700	18,900	0	-1,200
Primary Metal Industries	28,400	28,500	27,600	-100	800
Fabricated Metal Industries	77,200	76,800	73,200	400	4,000
Fabr. Structural Metal Prod.	36,500	36,300	35,400	200	1,100
Machinery, exc. Electrical	101,500	101,600	100,900	-100	600
Oil Field Machinery	22,400	22,500	21,800	-100	600
Electric & Electronic Equipment	117,900	117,900	116,300	0	1,600
Transportation Equipment	95,100	94,800	91,700	300	3,400
Aircraft & Parts	55,300	55,300	52,500	0	2,800
Instruments & Related Prod.	21,700	21,800	21,600	-100	100
Misc. Manufacturing Industries	13,900	13,900	13,300	0	600
Nondurable Goods	**405,900**	**407,100**	**404,200**	**-1,200**	**1,700**
Food & Kindred Products	98,700	99,100	98,400	-400	300
Meat Products	29,000	29,200	29,200	-200	-200
Dairy Products	4,500	4,600	4,600	-100	-100
Bakery Products	10,400	10,400	10,500	0	-100
Malt Beverages	2,900	3,100	3,100	-200	-200
Textile Mill Products	4,000	4,000	4,000	0	0
Apparel & Oth. Fin. Textile Prod.	54,800	54,700	54,500	100	300
Paper & Allied Products	26,800	26,800	25,000	0	1,800
Printing & Publishing	73,200	73,900	73,100	-700	100
Newspaper, Periodicals, Books & Misc.	34,700	35,200	36,000	-500	-1,300
Chemicals & Allied Products	74,800	74,800	74,300	0	500
Petroleum & Coal Products	30,700	31,000	32,600	-300	-1,900
Petroleum Refining	27,400	27,700	29,300	-300	-1,900
Leather & Leather Products	8,700	8,600	8,200	100	500
Other Nondurable Goods	34,200	34,200	34,100	0	100
TOTAL NONMANUFACTURING	**5,739,400**	**5,724,800**	**5,637,500**	**14,600**	**101,900**
Mining	**177,200**	**178,100**	**184,700**	**-900**	**-7,500**
Metal & Coal & Nonmet. Mnrls., exc. Fuel	9,000	9,000	9,700	0	-700
Oil & Gas Extraction	168,200	169,100	175,000	-900	-6,800
Construction	**309,400**	**315,000**	**337,200**	**-5,600**	**-27,800**
Transportation & Public Utilities	**395,300**	**393,900**	**388,400**	**1,400**	**6,900**
Railroad Transportation	19,600	19,700	21,100	-100	-1,500
Transportation, exc. Railroads	216,000	214,300	206,800	1,700	9,200
Transportation by Air	63,700	63,600	58,300	100	5,400
Communication, exc. U.S. Postal Service	84,000	84,200	84,800	-200	-800
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	75,700	75,700	75,700	0	0
Electric Services	40,700	40,700	41,600	0	-900
Gas Production & Distribution	27,700	27,700	26,900	0	800
Wholesale & Retail Trade	**1,693,200**	**1,676,400**	**1,667,100**	**16,800**	**26,100**
Wholesale Trade	413,200	412,100	407,900	1,100	5,300
Retail Trade	1,280,000	1,264,300	1,259,200	15,700	20,800
Building Materials & Garden Supplies	43,800	43,500	44,700	300	-900
General Merchandise Stores	186,900	179,700	180,100	7,200	6,800
Food Stores	231,700	232,400	229,100	-700	2,600
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	132,400	132,600	132,500	-200	-100
Apparel & Accessory Stores	83,800	79,800	83,800	4,000	0
Eating & Drinking Places	407,700	407,600	397,200	100	10,500
Other Retail Trade	193,700	188,700	191,800	5,000	1,900
Finance, Ins. & Real Estate	**440,500**	**439,200**	**439,500**	**1,300**	**1,000**
Banking	100,400	99,200	98,500	1,200	1,900
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	139,300	138,800	137,800	500	1,500
Other Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	200,800	201,200	203,200	-400	-2,400
Services	**1,513,800**	**1,518,100**	**1,450,100**	**-300**	**65,700**
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	81,600	82,200	81,200	-600	400
Personal Services	84,500	84,100	83,900	400	600
Business & Repair Services	423,100	424,000	404,600	-900	18,500
Amusement, including Motion Pictures	55,800	55,600	53,300	200	2,500
Health Services	416,500	415,300	391,100	1,200	25,400
Educational Services	76,900	78,300	79,100	-1,400	-2,200
Other Services & Miscellaneous	377,400	378,600	356,900	800	20,500
Total Government	**1,208,000**	**1,206,100**	**1,170,500**	**1,900**	**37,500**
Federal Government	196,000	193,000	194,700	3,000	1,300
State Government	247,700	250,200	239,800	-2,500	7,900
Local Government	764,300	762,900	736,000	1,400	28,300

+ Number of nonagricultural jobs in Texas without reference to place of residence of workers. Estimates of TEC in cooperation with Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.

* Preliminary – subject to revision. ** Revised.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES ✣
TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

	DEC.'88*	NOV.'88**	DEC.'87**	DEC.'88*	NOV.'88**	DEC.'87**	DEC.'88*	NOV.'88**	DEC.'87**
	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN		
Total Civilian Labor Force	55,600	56,100	54,200	99,700	101,700	101,400	424,300	431,400	431,100
Total Unemployment	3,000	3,100	3,400	5,200	5,900	5,100	21,200	22,900	23,700
Percent Unemployed	5.4%	5.5%	6.3%	5.2%	5.8%	5.0%	5.0%	5.3%	5.5%
Total Employment ++	52,600	53,000	50,800	94,500	95,800	96,300	403,100	408,500	407,400
	BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR			BRAZORIA			BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN		
Total Civilian Labor Force	160,400	162,500	160,000	83,400	84,100	81,500	97,000	97,700	96,100
Total Unemployment	14,200	14,800	15,600	5,400	5,900	6,200	10,500	10,900	12,200
Percent Unemployed	8.9%	9.1%	9.8%	6.5%	7.0%	7.6%	10.8%	11.2%	12.7%
Total Employment ++	146,200	147,700	144,400	78,000	78,200	75,300	86,500	86,800	83,900
	BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION			CORPUS CHRISTI			DALLAS***		
Total Civilian Labor Force	59,300	60,600	58,000	158,400	161,300	159,000	1,458.6	1,478.7	1,460.4
Total Unemployment	2,300	2,500	2,400	11,800	13,000	14,600	70.6	78.1	74.8
Percent Unemployed	3.9%	4.1%	4.1%	7.4%	8.1%	9.2%	4.8%	5.3%	5.1%
Total Employment ++	57,000	58,100	55,600	146,600	148,300	144,400	1,388.0	1,400.6	1,385.6
	EL PASO			FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON			GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY		
Total Civilian Labor Force	239,900	244,000	234,400	677,000	686,000	679,000	103,900	105,800	107,400
Total Unemployment	23,200	24,900	22,000	34,900	38,600	37,800	7,300	8,000	9,400
Percent Unemployed	9.7%	10.2%	9.4%	5.2%	5.6%	5.6%	7.0%	7.6%	8.8%
Total Employment ++	216,700	219,100	212,400	642,100	647,400	641,200	96,600	97,800	98,000
	HOUSTON***			KILLEEN-TEMPLE			LAREDO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	1,637.0	1,652.6	1,607.3	96,300	97,700	93,600	48,400	48,200	46,100
Total Unemployment	88.1	97.6	107.9	6,800	7,300	6,200	6,100	5,700	6,300
Percent Unemployed	5.4%	5.9%	6.7%	7.1%	7.5%	6.6%	12.6%	11.8%	13.7%
Total Employment ++	1,548.9	1,555.0	1,499.4	89,500	90,400	87,400	42,300	42,500	39,800
	LONGVIEW-MARSHALL			LUBBOCK			MCALLEN-EDINBURG-MISSION		
Total Civilian Labor Force	79,200	80,000	79,100	117,000	116,700	114,300	159,500	157,900	152,000
Total Unemployment	6,000	6,400	6,700	6,100	5,300	5,800	26,100	25,300	25,000
Percent Unemployed	7.6%	8.0%	8.5%	5.2%	4.5%	5.1%	16.4%	16.0%	16.4%
Total Employment ++	73,200	73,600	72,400	110,900	111,400	108,500	133,400	132,600	127,000
	MIDLAND			ODESSA			SAN ANGELO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	50,200	50,600	50,400	53,300	54,100	54,100	46,100	46,500	46,000
Total Unemployment	2,700	2,700	3,100	3,600	4,000	3,700	2,500	2,500	2,400
Percent Unemployed	5.4%	5.3%	6.2%	6.8%	7.4%	6.8%	5.4%	5.4%	5.2%
Total Employment ++	47,500	47,900	47,300	49,700	50,100	50,400	43,600	44,000	43,600
	SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON			TEXARKANA		
Total Civilian Labor Force	627,200	633,500	614,000	49,000	49,700	50,000	58,600	58,900	59,000
Total Unemployment	40,800	44,300	41,400	2,800	3,100	3,300	3,900	4,300	4,300
Percent Unemployed	6.5%	7.0%	6.7%	5.7%	6.2%	6.6%	6.7%	7.3%	7.3%
Total Employment ++	586,400	589,200	572,600	46,200	46,600	46,700	54,700	54,600	54,700
	TYLER			VICTORIA			WACO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	76,800	77,500	77,100	36,000	36,900	37,000	94,800	95,300	94,300
Total Unemployment	4,900	5,300	5,300	1,900	2,100	2,500	5,500	5,400	6,800
Percent Unemployed	6.4%	6.8%	6.9%	5.3%	5.7%	6.8%	5.8%	5.7%	7.2%
Total Employment ++	71,900	72,200	71,800	34,100	34,800	34,500	89,300	89,900	87,500
	WICHITA FALLS						STATE OF TEXAS***		
Total Civilian Labor Force	58,400	58,900	57,400				8,324.6	8,420.0	8,269.2
Total Unemployment	3,100	3,200	3,600				518.9	552.0	561.4
Percent Unemployed	5.3%	5.4%	6.3%				6.2%	6.6%	6.8%
Total Employment ++	55,300	55,700	53,800				7,805.7	7,868.0	7,707.8

✣ All estimates shown are "actual" (not seasonally adjusted). ++ Total employment includes resident wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family workers and domestics in private households, agricultural workers, and workers involved in labor-management disputes.

* Preliminary – subject to revision. ** Revised. *** In Thousands.

HOURS AND EARNINGS IN TEXAS ✚

	AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS			AVERAGE WEEKLY HOURS			AVERAGE HOURLY EARNINGS		
	Dec.'88*	Nov.'88	Dec.'87	Dec.'88*	Nov.'88	Dec.'87	Dec.'88*	Nov.'88	Dec.'87
FOR TEXAS									
MANUFACTURING TOTAL	$ 430.53	$ 420.00	$ 427.57	42.5	42.0	42.8	$ 10.13	$ 10.00	9.99
Durable Goods	429.56	418.05	427.55	42.7	42.1	43-1	10.06	9.93	9.92
Lumber & Wood Products	287.64	288.64	298.27	40.8	41.0	41.6	7.05	7.04	7.17
Furniture & Fixtures	276.14	267.65	254.63	41.4	40.8	39.6	6.67	6.56	6.43
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	389.66	388.74	400.76	42.4	41.8	43.0	9.19	9.30	9.32
Primary Metal Industries	447.28	456.84	447.10	41.3	42.3	42.1	10.83	10.80	10.62
Fabricated Metal Products	409.40	398.03	400.37	44.5	43.5	43.9	9.20	9.15	9.12
Machinery, exc. Electric	437.33	427.14	445.68	43.3	42.8	44.3	10.10	9.98	10.06
Oil Field Machinery	490.62	484.66	553.80	44.2	43.9	47.7	11.10	11.04	11.61
Electric & Electronic Equip.	459.26	442.65	452.15	41.6	41.1	42.1	11.04	10.77	10.74
Transportation Equipment	590.94	565.07	587.02	44.1	43.3	45.4	13.40	13.05	12.93
Instruments & Related Prod.	376.07	362.85	366.24	40.7	39.1	42.0	9.24	9.28	8.72
Misc. Manufacturing Inds.	289.26	269.89	292.33	40.4	38.5	40.1	7.16	7.01	7.29
Nondurable Goods	432.31	421.34	427.39	42.3	41.8	42.4	10.22	10.08	10.08
Food & Kindred Products	362.66	344.68	366.42	43.8	42.5	44.2	8.28	8.11	8.29
Meat Products	269.51	255.78	277.25	43.4	42.0	43.8	6.21	6.09	6.33
Malt Beverages	841.53	769.82	837.87	46.7	43.2	46.6	18.02	17.82	17.98
Textile Mill Products	355.79	320.73	347.00	47.0	43.4	47.6	7.57	7.39	7.29
Apparel & Other Text. Prods.	202.75	203.45	198.74	38.4	39.2	36.6	5.28	5.19	5.43
Paper & Allied Products	491.85	481.74	487.53	45.0	44.4	45.1	10.93	10.85	10.81
Printing & Publishing	399.25	406.93	383.57	38.8	39.7	39.1	10.29	10.25	9.81
Chemicals & Allied Products	666.24	649.73	682.87	42.9	42.3	44.4	15.53	15.36	15.38
Petroleum & Coal Products	752.12	723.60	681.78	46.6	45.0	44.3	16.14	16.08	15.39
Petroleum Refining	796.31	753.34	705.07	47.0	45.3	44.4	16.73	16.63	15.88
Leather & Leather Products	258.07	254.80	229.37	39.4	39.2	40.1	6.55	6.50	5.72
Other Nondurable Goods	384.94	381.70	403.59	43.3	42.6	45.5	8.89	8.96	8.87
NONMANUFACTURING									
Mining	522.86	495.91	511.34	41.3	39.8	42.4	12.66	12.46	12.06
Met/Coal/Nonmet Mnrls, exc. Fuel	540.59	537.43	563.47	45.2	45.2	46.8	11.96	11.89	12.04
Oil & Gas Extraction	521.52	494.15	507.73	41.0	39.5	42.1	12.72	12.51	12.06
Commun., exc. U.S. Postal Service	506.17	510.75	492.82	40.3	40.6	39.3	12.56	12.58	12.54
Elec., Gas & San. Services	486.80	486.29	458.60	39.1	39.6	39.5	12.45	12.28	11.61
Wholesale & Retail Trade	235.34	230.69	227.12	33.1	32.4	32.4	7.11	7.12	7.01
Wholesale Trade	408.18	404.69	387.87	39.4	39.1	39.1	10.36	10.35	9.92
Retail Trade	185.61	179.66	179.06	31.3	30.4	30.4	5.93	5.91	5.89
General Merchandise Stores	179.80	169.03	182.59	31.0	28.6	28.8	5.80	5.91	6.34
Banking	266.43	266.81	249.19	36.8	36.6	34.9	7.24	7.29	7.14

HOURS AND EARNINGS FOR SELECTED TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

DALLAS									
Manufacturing	$ 420.42	$ 417.16	$ 420.04	42.0	41.8	42.3	$ 10.01	$ 9.98	9.93
Durable Goods	453.68	444.37	454.90	42.8	42.2	43.2	10.60	10.53	10.53
Nondurable Goods	367.20	374.10	361.82	40.8	41.2	40.7	9.00	9.08	8.89
FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON									
Manufacturing	450.85	448.52	440.54	41.4	41.3	42.4	10.89	10.86	10.39
Durable Goods	475.18	474.66	465.04	41.5	41.6	42.9	11.45	11.41	10.84
Nondurable Goods	389.99	382.58	374.33	41.4	40.7	41.0	9.42	9.40	9.13
HOUSTON									
Manufacturing	525.70	508.36	508.19	44.4	43.9	44.5	11.84	11.58	11.42
Durable Goods	445.28	428.35	437.85	46.0	44.9	45.0	9.68	9.54	9.73
Nondurable Goods	619.58	600.48	585.19	42.7	42.8	43.9	14.51	14.03	13.33
SAN ANTONIO									
Manufacturing	301.41	301.29	304.36	39.4	39.8	40.1	7.65	7.57	7.59
Durable Goods	319.20	314.64	324.01	38.0	38.0	40.2	8.40	8.28	8.06
Nondurable Goods	283.68	289.12	285.60	40.7	41.6	40.0	6.97	6.95	7.14

Figures for Texas and selected areas cover Production Workers in Manufacturing and Mining industries only and Nonsupervisory Employees in other industry divisions. Earnings' averages include premium pay for overtime, holidays, and for late-shift work. ✚ Preliminary — subject to revision upon receipt of additional reports.

SOURCE: Texas Employment Commission in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.

(Continued from Page 3)

TEXAS LABOR MARKET REVIEW
Official Publication of
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were cut in private schools and colleges at the semester's end.

Mostly moderate but widespread cutbacks were reported in both the Durable and Nondurable Goods sectors of Manufacturing in December, bringing the Manufacturing total down by 1,600. **Durable Goods** declined by only 400, as small gains offset the majority of the equally modest losses. Fabricated Metal Industries provided the largest increase, with 400 additions, and Transportation Equipment added 300 jobs over the month. Of the decreases in this sector, losses in construction-related sectors were the most noteable. Lumber and Wood Products decreased by 300 jobs, as did Stone, Clay and Glass Products. A smaller number of jobs were cut in Furniture and Fixtures.

The **Nondurable Goods** sector dropped by 1,200 in December, due primarily to declines in three sectors. The largest loss in this group of industries occurred in Printing and Publishing, where 700 jobs were deleted as the publication of year books was completed. Food and Kindred Products decreased seasonally, losing 400 positions; and 300 jobs were lost in Petroleum and Coal Products in December. Over-the-month changes in other Nondurable Goods sectors were minimal.

HOURS AND EARNINGS RISE IN DECEMBER

There were an estimated 620,200 Manufacturing Production workers in Texas in mid-December 1988, down 500 from the November level. The average production worker in December was working a 42.5-hour week at $10.13 per hour and averaging $430.53 in weekly earnings. Average Weekly Hours rose by half an hour between November and December in Manufacturing, while Average Hourly Earnings were up by 13¢ over the month. Average Weekly Earnings, pushed up by these increases, rose by $10.53 in December. Compared to a year earlier, Average Weekly Hours were down 0.3 hour and Average Hourly Earnings had risen by 14¢.

TEC ACTIVITIES

	DEC.'88	DEC.'87
Total Population	16,921,000*	16,825,600*
% UI Covered Unemployment	1.6	1.9
UI Covered Employers	311,553	312,891
Total Claims Actions	542,127	677,361
Total Initial Claims Actions	65,174	74,023
Total Cont'd. Claims Actions	476,953	603,338
Total Placements	26,423	27,056
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amount	$152.16	$153.08
Total Amount Paid (Net)**	$59,090,479	$77,826,644

*Revised.
**Regular State UI benefits.

QUARTERLY UI BENEFITS PAID BY MSA
FOURTH QUARTER 1988 (OCT.-DEC.)

Abilene	$818,121
Amarillo	1,798,211
Austin	8,051,370
Beaumont-Port Arthur	4,953,505
Brazoria	2,148,215
Brownsville-Harlingen	2,685,569
Bryan-College Station	691,245
Corpus Christi	3,541,286
Dallas	28,823,170
El Paso	6,513,729
Fort Worth-Arlington	14,186,833
Galveston-Texas City	2,837,472
Houston	33,117,296
Killeen-Temple	1,404,531
Laredo	1,210,771
Longview-Marshall	1,950,406
Lubbock	1,293,014
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	5,274,543
Midland	725,187
Odessa	1,138,991
San Angelo	860,034
San Antonio	13,624,040
Sherman-Denison	860,030
Texarkana (Bowie Co. only)	719,917
Tyler	1,785,836
Victoria	646,735
Waco	1,677,522
Wichita Falls	947,534
State of Texas	171,427,146

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